GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5840
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2003
BUSINESS CONTRACTS IN IRAQ
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;GADDE RAMAMOHAN;NIVEDITA MANE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has carry out any survey in regard to the business contracts in Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per survey Indian companies would get sub contracts worth about $ 15 billion; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a)&(b) The Governmentis not aware of any survey having been carried out by the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) in regard to business contracts in Iraq.However, the FICCI had made a study on reconstruction and humanitarian supplies to Iraq. The salient features of the FICCI study are as under: -

(i) The United Nations passed Resolution 1472 on March 28, 2003 notifying the continuation and extension of the `Oil for Food Programme` in Iraq for emergency needs out of approved and funded contracts, to be delivered in 45 days at strategic ports in Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Kuwait and Iran.

(ii) FICCI should take a delegation to meet the Office of the Iraq Programme (OIP)-United Nations officials in New York to presen what India can offer and to ensure that interest of Indian businesses are taken care of.

(iii) Information gathered by FICCI reveals that Indian businesses areprepared and would be able to make available supplies of a large number of items belonging to the six identified sectors.

(c) As per the FICCI study, contracts for items worth over Rs.3000 crores have already been entered into and Indian business (both in the public and private sector) would like the same to be executed at the earliest. Further, there is scope for entering into contracts worth Rs.2000 crores in the near future.

(d) The Government through Permanent Mission of India (PMI) New York has been facilitating the execution of contracts earlier entered into by Office of the Iraq Programme (OIP) with the Indian exporters.The OIP has placed 30 Indian contracts, out of a total of 327 worldwide contracts on the Priority List for supply of essential humanitarian items. The Government is also in constant touch with the concerned agencies including the apex trade and industrial organisations and has been taking all necessary steps through the PMI, New York to facilitate exports to Iraq.